

Addendum to  
Logarithmic Geometry and Moduli  
Tropical Geometry and Moduli Spaces  
ICM 2018 Satellite  
Cabo Frio, Rio de Janeiro

Dan Abramovich

Brown University

August 13 - 17, 2018.

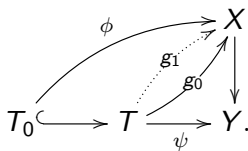
# Differentials

Say  $T_0 = \text{Spec } k$  and  $T = \text{Spec } k[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^2)$ , and consider a morphism  $X \rightarrow Y$ .

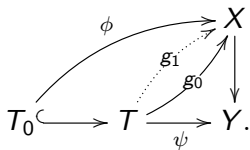
# Differentials

Say  $T_0 = \text{Spec } k$  and  $T = \text{Spec } k[\epsilon]/(\epsilon^2)$ , and consider a morphism  $X \rightarrow Y$ .

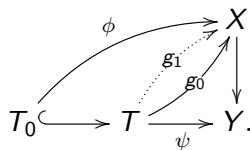
We contemplate the following diagram:



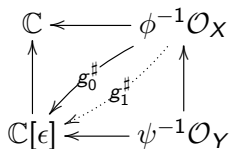
# Differentials (continued)



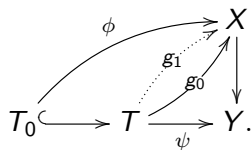
# Differentials (continued)



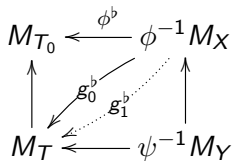
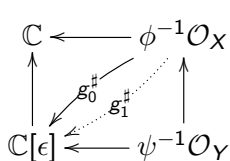
This translates to a diagram of groups



# Differentials (continued)



This translates to a diagram of groups and a diagram of monoids



# Differentials (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{C} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \\ \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^\# & \uparrow \\ \mathbb{C}[\epsilon] & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y \end{array}$$

A commutative diagram with two rows and two columns. The top row consists of  $\mathbb{C}$  on the left and  $\phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X$  on the right, connected by a horizontal arrow pointing left. The bottom row consists of  $\mathbb{C}[\epsilon]$  on the left and  $\psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y$  on the right, also connected by a horizontal arrow pointing left. A vertical arrow points upwards from  $\mathbb{C}[\epsilon]$  to  $\mathbb{C}$ . Another vertical arrow points upwards from  $\psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y$  to  $\phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X$ . A solid arrow labeled  $g_0^\#$  points from  $\phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X$  down to  $\mathbb{C}[\epsilon]$ . A dotted arrow labeled  $g_1^\#$  points from  $\psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y$  down to  $\mathbb{C}[\epsilon]$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M_{T_0} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}M_X \\ \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^b & \uparrow \\ M_T & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}M_Y \end{array}$$

A commutative diagram with two rows and two columns. The top row consists of  $M_{T_0}$  on the left and  $\phi^{-1}M_X$  on the right, connected by a horizontal arrow pointing left. The bottom row consists of  $M_T$  on the left and  $\psi^{-1}M_Y$  on the right, also connected by a horizontal arrow pointing left. A vertical arrow points upwards from  $M_T$  to  $M_{T_0}$ . Another vertical arrow points upwards from  $\psi^{-1}M_Y$  to  $\phi^{-1}M_X$ . A solid arrow labeled  $g_0^b$  points from  $\phi^{-1}M_X$  down to  $M_T$ . A dotted arrow labeled  $g_1^b$  points from  $\psi^{-1}M_Y$  down to  $M_T$ .

## Differentials (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{C} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \\
 \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^\sharp & \uparrow \\
 \mathbb{C}[\epsilon] & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y
 \end{array}$$

$\swarrow g_1^\sharp$  (dotted arrow)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 M_{T_0} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}M_X \\
 \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^b & \uparrow \\
 M_T & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}M_Y
 \end{array}$$

$\swarrow g_1^b$  (dotted arrow)

The difference  $g_1^\sharp - g_0^\sharp$  is a **derivation**  $\phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{d} \epsilon\mathbb{C} \simeq \mathbb{C}$



## Differentials (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{C} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \\
 \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^\sharp & \uparrow \\
 \mathbb{C}[\epsilon] & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 M_{T_0} & \longleftarrow & \phi^b \phi^{-1}M_X \\
 \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^b & \uparrow \\
 M_T & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}M_Y
 \end{array}$$

The difference  $g_1^\sharp - g_0^\sharp$  is a **derivation**  $\phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{d} \epsilon\mathbb{C} \simeq \mathbb{C}$   
 It comes from the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow J \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\underline{T}} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\underline{T}_0} \rightarrow 0.$$

## Differentials (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{C} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \\
 \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^\sharp & \uparrow \\
 \mathbb{C}[\epsilon] & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y \\
 & \nearrow g_1^\sharp & \\
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 M_{T_0} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}M_X \\
 \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^b & \uparrow \\
 M_T & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}M_Y \\
 & \nearrow g_1^b & \\
 \end{array}$$

The difference  $g_1^\sharp - g_0^\sharp$  is a **derivation**  $\phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{d} \epsilon\mathbb{C} \simeq \mathbb{C}$   
 It comes from the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow J \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\underline{T}} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\underline{T}_0} \rightarrow 0.$$

The multiplicative analogue

$$1 \rightarrow (1 + J) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\underline{T}}^\times \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\underline{T}_0}^\times \rightarrow 1$$

## Differentials (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{C} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \\
 \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^\sharp & \uparrow \\
 \mathbb{C}[\epsilon] & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y \\
 & \nearrow g_1^\sharp & \\
 & \text{---} & 
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 M_{T_0} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}M_X \\
 \uparrow & \nearrow g_0^b & \uparrow \\
 M_T & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}M_Y \\
 & \nearrow g_1^b & \\
 & \text{---} & 
 \end{array}$$

The difference  $g_1^\sharp - g_0^\sharp$  is a **derivation**  $\phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \xrightarrow{d} \epsilon\mathbb{C} \simeq \mathbb{C}$   
 It comes from the sequence

$$0 \rightarrow J \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\underline{T}} \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\underline{T}_0} \rightarrow 0.$$

The multiplicative analogue

$$1 \rightarrow (1 + J) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\underline{T}}^\times \rightarrow \mathcal{O}_{\underline{T}_0}^\times \rightarrow 1$$

means, if all the logarithmic structures are integral,

$$1 \rightarrow (1 + J) \rightarrow M_T \rightarrow M_{T_0} \rightarrow 1.$$

# Differentials (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{C} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \\
 \uparrow & \swarrow g_0^\# & \uparrow \\
 \mathbb{C}[\epsilon] & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y \\
 & \nwarrow g_1^\# & \\
 & & 
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 M_{T_0} & \longleftarrow & \phi^b \phi^{-1}M_X \\
 \uparrow & \swarrow g_0^b & \uparrow \\
 M_T & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}M_Y \\
 & \nwarrow g_1^b & \\
 & & 
 \end{array}$$

$$1 \rightarrow (1 + J) \rightarrow M_T \rightarrow M_{T_0} \rightarrow 1$$

# Differentials (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{C} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_X \\
 \uparrow & \swarrow g_0^\# & \uparrow \\
 \mathbb{C}[\epsilon] & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}\mathcal{O}_Y \\
 & \nwarrow g_1^\# & 
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 M_{T_0} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1}M_X \\
 \uparrow & \swarrow g_0^b & \uparrow \\
 M_T & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1}M_Y \\
 & \nwarrow g_1^b & 
 \end{array}$$

$$1 \rightarrow (1 + J) \rightarrow M_T \rightarrow M_{T_0} \rightarrow 1$$

means that we can take the “difference”

$$g_1^b(m) = (1 + D(m)) + g_0^b(m).$$

# Differentials (continued)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{C} & \longleftarrow & \phi^{-1} \mathcal{O}_X \\
 \uparrow & \swarrow g_0^\# & \uparrow \\
 \mathbb{C}[\epsilon] & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1} \mathcal{O}_Y \\
 & \nwarrow g_1^\# & \\
 & & 
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 M_{T_0} & \longleftarrow & \phi^b \phi^{-1} M_X \\
 \uparrow & \swarrow g_0^b & \uparrow \\
 M_T & \longleftarrow & \psi^{-1} M_Y \\
 & \nwarrow g_1^b & \\
 & & 
 \end{array}$$

$$1 \rightarrow (1 + J) \rightarrow M_T \rightarrow M_{T_0} \rightarrow 1$$

means that we can take the “difference”

$$g_1^b(m) = (1 + D(m)) + g_0^b(m).$$

Namely  $D(m) = “g_1^b(m) - g_0^b(m)” \in J$ .

## Key properties:

- $D(m_1 + m_2) = D(m_1) + D(m_2)$

## Key properties:

- $D(m_1 + m_2) = D(m_1) + D(m_2)$
- $D|_{\psi^{-1}M_Y} = 0$



## Key properties:

- $D(m_1 + m_2) = D(m_1) + D(m_2)$
- $D|_{\psi^{-1}M_Y} = 0$
- $\alpha(m) \cdot D(m) = d(\alpha(m))$ ,

## Key properties:

- $D(m_1 + m_2) = D(m_1) + D(m_2)$
- $D|_{\psi^{-1}M_Y} = 0$
- $\alpha(m) \cdot D(m) = d(\alpha(m))$ ,

in other words,

$$D(m) = d \log (\alpha(m)),$$

## Key properties:

- $D(m_1 + m_2) = D(m_1) + D(m_2)$
- $D|_{\psi^{-1}M_Y} = 0$
- $\alpha(m) \cdot D(m) = d(\alpha(m))$ ,

in other words,

$$D(m) = d \log (\alpha(m)),$$

which justifies the name of the theory.

## Key properties:

- $D(m_1 + m_2) = D(m_1) + D(m_2)$
- $D|_{\psi^{-1}M_Y} = 0$
- $\alpha(m) \cdot D(m) = d(\alpha(m))$ ,

in other words,

$$D(m) = d \log (\alpha(m)),$$

which justifies the name of the theory.

### Definition

A **logarithmic derivation**:

$$\begin{aligned} d : \mathcal{O} &\rightarrow J; \\ D : M &\rightarrow J \end{aligned}$$

satisfying the above.

# Logarithmic derivations

## Definition

A **logarithmic derivation**:

$$\begin{aligned}d : \mathcal{O} &\rightarrow J; \\ D : M &\rightarrow J\end{aligned}$$

satisfying the above.

# Logarithmic derivations

## Definition

A **logarithmic derivation**:

$$\begin{aligned}d : \mathcal{O} &\rightarrow J; \\ D : M &\rightarrow J\end{aligned}$$

satisfying the above.

The universal derivation:

$$d : \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \Omega_{\underline{X}/\underline{Y}}^1 = \mathcal{O} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathcal{O}/\text{relations}$$

# Logarithmic derivations

## Definition

A **logarithmic derivation**:

$$\begin{aligned}d &: \mathcal{O} \rightarrow J; \\D &: M \rightarrow J\end{aligned}$$

satisfying the above.

The universal derivation:

$$d : \mathcal{O} \rightarrow \Omega_{\underline{X}/\underline{Y}}^1 = \mathcal{O} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathcal{O}/\text{relations}$$

The universal logarithmic derivation takes values in

$$\Omega_{\underline{X}/\underline{Y}}^1 = \left( \Omega_{\underline{X}/\underline{Y}}^1 \oplus (\mathcal{O} \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} M^{\text{gp}}) \right) / \text{relations}$$

## Prestable curves

A *prestable  $n$ -marked curve  $C/S$*  is a flat, proper morphism with connected reduced fibers of dimension 1, along with disjoint sections  $s_i : S \rightarrow C$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  in the smooth locus of  $C/S$ . We require all fibers have at most nodes as singularities.



## Prestable curves

A *prestable  $n$ -marked curve  $C/S$*  is a flat, proper morphism with connected reduced fibers of dimension 1, along with disjoint sections  $s_i : S \rightarrow C$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  in the smooth locus of  $C/S$ . We require all fibers have at most nodes as singularities.

We denote by  $p_i$  the images of  $s_i$ .

# Stable curves

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if for every geometric fiber the automorphism group  $\text{Aut}(C_0, p_1, \dots, p_n)$  is finite.

# Stable curves

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if for every geometric fiber the automorphism group  $\text{Aut}(C_0, p_1, \dots, p_n)$  is finite.

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if for every irreducible component  $C'$  of the normalization  $C^\nu$  of a geometric fiber

# Stable curves

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if for every geometric fiber the automorphism group  $\text{Aut}(C_0, p_1, \dots, p_n)$  is finite.

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if for every irreducible component  $C'$  of the normalization  $C^\nu$  of a geometric fiber

- If  $C' \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$  then  $C'$  contains at least 3 special points.

# Stable curves

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if for every geometric fiber the automorphism group  $\text{Aut}(C_0, p_1, \dots, p_n)$  is finite.

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if for every irreducible component  $C'$  of the normalization  $C^\nu$  of a geometric fiber

- If  $C' \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$  then  $C'$  contains at least 3 special points.
- If  $g(C') = 1$  then  $C'$  contains at least 1 special point.

# Stable curves

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if for every geometric fiber the automorphism group  $\text{Aut}(C_0, p_1, \dots, p_n)$  is finite.

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if for every irreducible component  $C'$  of the normalization  $C^\nu$  of a geometric fiber

- If  $C' \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$  then  $C'$  contains at least 3 special points.
- If  $g(C') = 1$  then  $C'$  contains at least 1 special point.

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if  $\omega_{C/S}(\sum p_i)$  is  $\pi$ -ample.

# Stable curves

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if for every geometric fiber the automorphism group  $\text{Aut}(C_0, p_1, \dots, p_n)$  is finite.

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if for every irreducible component  $C'$  of the normalization  $C^\nu$  of a geometric fiber

- If  $C' \simeq \mathbb{P}^1$  then  $C'$  contains at least 3 special points.
- If  $g(C') = 1$  then  $C'$  contains at least 1 special point.

## Definition

A prestable curve  $C/S$  is *stable* if  $\omega_{C/S}(\sum p_i)$  is  $\pi$ -ample.

## Proposition

*All three definitions coincide*

# Moduli of stable curves

## Theorem (Deligne–Mumford–Knudsen)

*Stable curves form a proper, smooth Deligne–Mumford stack  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$  over  $\mathbb{Z}$  with projective coarse moduli space. The universal curve is  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n+1}$ .*



# Stacks

What is a moduli problem?

# Stacks

What is a moduli problem?

We all learned about “representable functors”

# Stacks

What is a moduli problem?

We all learned about “representable functors”

These work sometimes, but often replaced by “coarse moduli spaces”, a compromise

# Stacks

What is a moduli problem?

We all learned about “representable functors”

These work sometimes, but often replaced by “coarse moduli spaces”, a compromise

The reason is that moduli functors dance around the problem instead of facing it directly - the problem of automorphisms.

# Moduli as Categories

The object of interest are **families**  $X \rightarrow S$ .

# Moduli as Categories

The object of interest are **families**  $X \rightarrow S$ .

First and foremost: Families can be **pulled back**.

# Moduli as Categories

The object of interest are **families**  $X \rightarrow S$ .

First and foremost: Families can be **pulled back**.

So they form a **category**  $\mathcal{M}$ , arrows being cartesian diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_1 & \longrightarrow & X_2 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ S_1 & \longrightarrow & S_2 \end{array}$$

# Moduli as Categories

The object of interest are **families**  $X \rightarrow S$ .

First and foremost: Families can be **pulled back**.

So they form a **category**  $\mathcal{M}$ , arrows being cartesian diagrams

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X_1 & \longrightarrow & X_2 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ S_1 & \longrightarrow & S_2 \end{array}$$

With the forgetful functor  $(X \rightarrow S) \mapsto S$  this is a **category fibered in groupoids**.



# Moduli as Stacks

Second, both maps between families in  $\mathcal{M}$  and the families themselves can be **glued**:

# Moduli as Stacks

Second, both maps between families in  $\mathcal{M}$  and the families themselves can be **glued**:

If  $f_i : C_1|_{U_i} \rightarrow C_2|_{U_i}$  are maps between families over  $S$  which agree on  $U_i \cap U_j$ , then there is a glued map  $f$ .

# Moduli as Stacks

Second, both maps between families in  $\mathcal{M}$  and the families themselves can be **glued**:

If  $f_i : C_1|_{U_i} \rightarrow C_2|_{U_i}$  are maps between families over  $S$  which agree on  $U_i \cap U_j$ , then there is a glued map  $f$ .

If  $C_i$  are families over  $U_i$  and  $\phi_{i,j}$  are isomorphisms of  $C_i|_{U_i \cap U_j}$  with  $C_j|_{U_i \cap U_j}$  which are compatible on triple intersections then there is a glued family  $C \rightarrow S$ .

# Moduli as Stacks

Second, both maps between families in  $\mathcal{M}$  and the families themselves can be **glued**:

If  $f_i : C_1|_{U_i} \rightarrow C_2|_{U_i}$  are maps between families over  $S$  which agree on  $U_i \cap U_j$ , then there is a glued map  $f$ .

If  $C_i$  are families over  $U_i$  and  $\phi_{i,j}$  are isomorphisms of  $C_i|_{U_i \cap U_j}$  with  $C_j|_{U_i \cap U_j}$  which are compatible on triple intersections then there is a glued family  $C \rightarrow S$ .

This makes the category  $\mathcal{M}$  into a **stack**.

# Algebraic stacks

What makes a stack algebraic is that it is approximated by a scheme.

# Algebraic stacks

What makes a stack algebraic is that it is approximated by a scheme. A scheme  $Z$  defines a stack which is the category  $\mathcal{Gch}/Z$ .

# Algebraic stacks

What makes a stack algebraic is that it is approximated by a scheme. A scheme  $Z$  defines a stack which is the category  $\mathcal{Gch}/Z$ . A map  $Z \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  is **smooth** if it provides geometric objects of  $\mathcal{M}$  with **versal deformation spaces**

# Algebraic stacks

What makes a stack algebraic is that it is approximated by a scheme.

A scheme  $Z$  defines a stack which is the category  $\mathcal{Gch}/Z$ .

A map  $Z \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  is **smooth** if it provides geometric objects of  $\mathcal{M}$  with **versal deformation spaces**

A stack is algebraic essentially if it admits a smooth map from a scheme.



# Algebraic stacks

What makes a stack algebraic is that it is approximated by a scheme.

A scheme  $Z$  defines a stack which is the category  $\mathcal{S}ch/Z$ .

A map  $Z \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  is **smooth** if it provides geometric objects of  $\mathcal{M}$  with **versal deformation spaces**

A stack is algebraic essentially if it admits a smooth map from a scheme.

For instance,  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_g$  is an algebraic stack since it has a smooth map from the Hilbert scheme of 3-canonically embedded stable curve.

# Artin's criteria

Michael Artin listed criteria for a moduli problem to be an algebraic stack

# Artin's criteria

Michael Artin listed criteria for a moduli problem to be an algebraic stack  
Most of them often apply by general nonsense (though I have met surprises!)

# Artin's criteria

Michael Artin listed criteria for a moduli problem to be an algebraic stack  
Most of them often apply by general nonsense (though I have met surprises!)  
Often the crucial criterion is the existence of versal deformation spaces.

# Stable maps

A **stable map** is a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ \downarrow \pi & & \\ S & & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \curvearrowright \\ s_i \end{array}$$

# Stable maps

A **stable map** is a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ \downarrow \pi & & \\ S & & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \nearrow s_i \\ \searrow \end{array}$$

where

- $(C/S, s_i)$  is a prestable curve,

# Stable maps

A **stable map** is a diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & \xrightarrow{f} & X \\ \downarrow \pi & & \\ S & & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \nearrow s_i \\ \searrow \end{array}$$

where

- $(C/S, s_i)$  is a prestable curve, and
- in fibers  $\text{Aut}(C_s \rightarrow X, s_i)$  is finite.

# Gromov–Witten theory

We want to count curves on  $X$  of class  $\beta \in H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})$  meeting cycles  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n$  corresponding to cohomology classes  $\gamma_i$ . For instance: lines through  $p_1, p_2$ .



# Gromov–Witten theory

We want to count curves on  $X$  of class  $\beta \in H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})$  meeting cycles  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n$  corresponding to cohomology classes  $\gamma_i$ . For instance: lines through  $p_1, p_2$ .

Kontsevich's method: the moduli of stable maps  $M := \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n,\beta}(X)$  is a Deligne–Mumford stack with projective coarse moduli space.

# Gromov–Witten theory

We want to count curves on  $X$  of class  $\beta \in H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})$  meeting cycles  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n$  corresponding to cohomology classes  $\gamma_i$ . For instance: lines through  $p_1, p_2$ .

Kontsevich's method: the moduli of stable maps  $M := \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n,\beta}(X)$  is a Deligne–Mumford stack with projective coarse moduli space.

There are evaluation maps

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{e_i} & X \\ (C/S, p_i) & \mapsto & f(p_i) \end{array}$$

# Gromov–Witten theory

We want to count curves on  $X$  of class  $\beta \in H_2(X, \mathbb{Z})$  meeting cycles  $\Gamma_1, \dots, \Gamma_n$  corresponding to cohomology classes  $\gamma_i$ . For instance: lines through  $p_1, p_2$ .

Kontsevich's method: the moduli of stable maps  $M := \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n,\beta}(X)$  is a Deligne–Mumford stack with projective coarse moduli space.

There are evaluation maps

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M & \xrightarrow{e_i} & X \\ (C/S, p_i) & \mapsto & f(p_i) \end{array}$$

and one defines the *Gromov–Witten invariants*

$$\langle \gamma_1 \cdots \gamma_n \rangle_{g,\beta}^X = \int_{[M]^{\text{vir}}} e_1^* \gamma_1 \cdots e_n^* \gamma_n.$$

## Gromov–Witten theory (continued)

The mysterious part is  $[M]^{\text{vir}}$ . This is there to make this a homological and deformation invariant.

## Gromov–Witten theory (continued)

The mysterious part is  $[M]^{\text{vir}}$ . This is there to make this a homological and deformation invariant.

This is akin to the fact that the number of lines through  $p_1, p_2$ , namely the intersection number of the locus of lines through  $p_1$  with the locus of lines through  $p_2$ , is 1, whether or not  $p_1 = p_2$ .

## Gromov–Witten theory (continued)

The mysterious part is  $[M]^{\text{vir}}$ . This is there to make this a homological and deformation invariant.

This is akin to the fact that the number of lines through  $p_1, p_2$ , namely the intersection number of the locus of lines through  $p_1$  with the locus of lines through  $p_2$ , is 1, whether or not  $p_1 = p_2$ .

In order to define this one uses a *perfect obstruction theory*. In this case it is given by  $R^\bullet \pi_* f^* T_X$ , represented by a 2-term complex on  $S$ .